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Yonkers Green Policy Task Force News Blast

April is Earth Month in Yonkers

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April is Earth Month in Yonkers



2010 Yonkers Earth Month Events Presented by the Green Policy Task Force

Week-Long Spring Break Program

March 29, 30, 31, April 1, 2

10 am-4 pm

Fishing the Hudson Eco-Week! Kids ages 10- 14 can spend **spring break** on the Hudson aboard a 50' **fishing vessel** with Beczak's educators and Captain Chris of Island Current Charters. **Be on the water each day** rod-fishing; trawling; learning about the region's rich history and ecology; **sailing** to the Alpine Boat Basin; **hiking** the Palisades Park, and learning **boat safety** and nautical terms. \$300 for 5-day program. Call 914-377-1900 ext. 12. Beczak Environmental Education Center, 35 Alexander Street, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Monday, March 29 - Friday, April 2**1-3:30 pm**

Hudson River Museum: School's Out, Stars Are In. Creative activities and planetarium shows for students on school break. Tour the environmental gallery, **Hudson Riverama**, with Junior Docents. Learn about more than **200 species of fish** in the Hudson. **Craft:** Decorate a Japanese windsock. **Star show:** River Through Time and Ocean of Air, Ocean of Space. Call for details, 914-963-4550.

Wednesday, March 31**9:30 -10:30 am****Yonkers Joint Waste Water Treatment Plant Tour**

Ever wonder where it all goes? See how waste water is cleaned and processed. One Fernbrook St., Yonkers, 914-231-2847 (let it ring!) All ages. **Call in advance to get directions even if you have GPS.**

Thursday, April 1**10 -11:30 am**

Lenoir Nature Preserve. See how animals, from insects to deer, use **color and camouflage** to survive in the wild. Ages 5 and up. Lenoir Preserve, 19 Dudley St., Yonkers. 914-968-5851.

Monday, April 5**9:30-10:30 am**

Ever wonder what happens to your recycled garbage? **Tour** the Westchester County Material Recovery Facility (the MRF) across from Stew Leonard's - Exit 6A off NY Thruway I-87. All ages. 914-813-5441.

Saturday, April 10**9-10 am**

Lawn care and maintenance: conventional and organic. **Free garden advice.** Stew Leonard's in Yonkers, 914-375-4700.

Saturday, April 10**7 pm**

Lecture: Did you know that a single oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water a day but are rapidly disappearing from the Hudson River? Learn how vital they are to the **ecological well-being** of the Hudson River and what is being done to bring them back from the coordinator of 100+ **oyster gardens** in the Hudson, including one at Beczak. \$5. 914-377-1900 ext. 13. Beczak Environmental Education Center, 35 Alexander St., Yonkers.

Sunday, April 11 (Rain Date: Sunday, April 18)**9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Team up with Groundwork Hudson Valley to **commit vineocide** by murdering invasive vines on the South County Trailway off exit 13 on the Saw Mill River Parkway North at Farragut Ave. (Make an immediate right off the parkway and into the parking lot.) Tools and **snacks** provided. Call 914-375-2151.

Sunday, April 11**1-1:45 pm**

Hudson River Museum Gallery Tour: Celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day at Yonkers Hudson River Museum. Tour Hudson Riverama, the Museum's environmental gallery, with Museum educator Deborah Yasinsky. See **history, geology, and plant and animal life** of the river. 511 Warburton Ave., Yonkers. 914-963-4550.

Sunday, April 11**2-3 pm**

Hudson River Museum: Performance: Fish Tales by Deborah Weiss Dance Company Culture of the Hudson River through **dance**, narration, **colorful costumes** and music. 511 Warburton Ave., Yonkers. Call 914-963-4550.

Saturday, April 17**9-10 am**

Free organic soil, composts, and mulching class at Stew Leonard's in Yonkers, 914-375-4700.

Saturday, April 17**1 pm**

Join **Yonkers' Groundwork Hudson Valley** Director of River Programs, Ann-Marie Mitroff, at the Irvington Public Library for her information-packed lecture on **rain gardening** as part of a day-long series of environmental talks. No RSVP required. 12 South Astor St., Irvington, 914-375-2151.

Saturday, April 17**3 pm**

Race/Fun Run to Save Whales Bring your family and friends to support the on-going protection of whales and dolphins at this **1K fun run** for kids (or adults) or **5 K race**, starting at Beczak Center and routing along the waterfront and Yonkers historic district. \$5 donation goes to Earth Island Institute and www.savejapandolphins.org. **Prizes and medals!** Vendors welcome! Entrants can pre-register on line at www.ny4whales.org or call 914-793-9186. In person registration starts at 2 pm. Beczak Environmental Education Center, 35 Alexander St., Yonkers.

Tuesday, April 20**6-9 pm**

Attention students and school personnel: Learn about **sustainable developments** in green business and industry at a sustainability **expo** hosted by the Children's Environmental Literacy Fund (CELFL) in partnership with the Green Schools Coalition of Westchester at PACE University. Information booths, including those of Yonkers' Groundwork Hudson Valley and Yonkers Science Barge will promote **inspiring, positive**, real-world solutions to global environmental issues. For more information, call 914- 375-2151.

Earth Day: Thursday, April 22**7:30 am sharp**

Native American tribal chief and other spiritual leaders gather for the annual **Blessing of the Hudson River** at Beczak Center's beach. 35 Alexander Street, Yonkers. Call 914-377-1900 ext. 13.

Earth Day: Thursday, April 22

10am-4pm

Riverside High School Earth Day Celebration at Yonkers Riverside High School. Join students, faculty and the Yonkers Green Policy Task Force **celebrate Earth Month** with environmental PSA's, commercials and podcasts; biology and earth science students **planting flowers** outside; Synergy Lab students displaying their recycled paper; Auto Cad students projecting their **solar paneled building designs**; Groundwork Hudson Valley doing **vine cutting** on Kennedy Blvd. with Riverside students; and more. 565 Warburton Ave., Yonkers. 914-376-8425.

Earth Day: Thursday, April 22

12:54 pm

Watch Groundwork Hudson Valley's Science Barge Director Bob Walters adjust the barge's solar panels to face **solar south** for maximum energy efficiency in **celebration** of spring and Earth Day. **Timing is exact.** Barge is open at Noon. Refreshments provided. Yonkers Pier. Call 914-375- 2151 or e-mail bob@groundworkhudsonvalley.org

Friday, April 23

7 -10 pm

Greenies Awards Join us for stroll down the "green" carpet as the **Yonkers Green Policy Task Force** honors everyday Yonkers citizens who have gone "green" in their daily lives. Fantastic, fun event with **hundreds in attendance**. Cash bar. Hors D'oeuvres. Park Hill Racquet Club, 2 Glenbrook Ave., Yonkers. 914-377- 6064.

Saturday, April 24

9-10 am

Free **pruning class** at Stew Leonard's in Yonkers, call 914-375-4700.

Saturday, April 24

9-11 am

Meet at Tibbetts Park in front of the swimming pool bathhouse for a **spring migration bird walk** with Hudson River Audubon Society President Michael Bochnik. BYOB (Bring your own binoculars.) Wear comfortable shoes. **Rain or shine.** Ages six to 99. Call 914-237-9331 for directions.

Saturday, April 24

10 am-Noon

Don't let invasive vines kill our trees. Meet the Yonkers Land Conservancy at Rumsey Rd. and Cross County Pkwy. to **clip invasive vines** with provided shears. Email mommylolooh@hotmail.com

Saturday, April 24**10 am-2 pm**

Earth Day at Beczak Center. Join staff and friends in giving back to the earth by caring for Beczak's **marsh, beach, and lawn**. Snacks and gloves provided. **Live music** by local bluegrass band "Greetings from Anywhere" at 11am. 35 Alexander St., Yonkers. 914- 377-1900 ext. 13.

Saturday, April 24**12-5 pm**

How to Grow the Best Tomato. Come learn what makes tomatoes grow and flourish aboard Groundwork Hudson Valley's Science Barge in Yonkers. **Free Brandywine Heirloom tomato plants** while supplies last. Also learn how solar, wind, and bioenergies can be integrated together to **produce food**. Yonkers downtown waterfront. 914-375- 2151.

Sunday, April 25**11 am-1 pm**

Join the **Yonkers Bike Club**, Westchester County Board of Legislators Chairman Ken Jenkins and Yonkers City Council President Chuck Lesnick in **cleaning** parts of the South County Trailway Bike Path at Tuckahoe Road in preparation for **spring walking and biking**. Gloves and garbage bags supplied. Then **ride** the bike path ride to Elmsford. Meet in parking lot at 75 Tuckahoe Rd. in between I-87 and the Saw Mill Pkwy. Email yonkersbikeclub@gmail.com

Sunday, April 25**12-5 pm**

Rocket Launches, Telescopic Sky Observations, Star Shows, and Astronomy Activity Labs at **Yonkers' Hudson River Museum**. 511 Warburton Ave., Yonkers. 914-963-4550.

Sunday, April 25

4:15 pm Concert under the direction of Taffy Williams, music director

5:00 pm Mass to Save the Earth Annunciation Church, 470 Westchester Ave., Yonkers. 914-779-7345.

Wednesday, April 28**6:45 pm**

Come to the **penthouse** at 66 Main Street to enjoy wine and snacks in this mega-hip, **geothermally- heated luxury loft** apartment building in Downtown Yonkers for a private **screening** of the Academy Award nominee for Best Documentary Feature, **Food, Inc.**, an expose on America's industrialized food system. 914- 377-6067.


Friday, April 30**6:45-8:45 pm**

Don't miss this acclaimed Oscar winning **docuthriller**, *The Cove*, where Flipper meets the Bourne Identity. Winner of **Best Documentary in 2009**. Come to Sarah Lawrence College's Heimbold Visual Arts Center, 1 Mead Way, Bronxville. Join Yonkers whale and dolphin advocate Taffy Williams for a wine



and cheese Q&A and to learn how you can help protect our **underwater world**. 914-377-6067.


* Arbor Day Tree Plantings will be going on throughout the city all month*



This eblast is provided by the [City of Yonkers Green Policy Task Force](#). Its members research and submit potential "green" legislative initiatives to the City Council; work on potential quality-of-life improvements for the Yonkers community; apply for environmental grants; and foster educational outreach for Yonkers students as well as the community-at-large. Their public meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. on the 4th floor of City Hall.

If you know of others in the environmental community who would like to receive this news or attend meetings, please email laura.fahrenthold@yonkersny.gov

From: Council President Chuck Lesnick with Chairman Bob Walters and Coordinator Laura Fahrenthold-Pittman; District 1 Majority Leader Patricia McDow with Margaret Setterholm; District 2 Councilmember Wilson Terrero with Nortrud Spero; District 3 Councilmember Joan Gronowski with Bert Rothing; District 4 Councilmember Dennis Shepherd with Terry Joshi; District 5 Minority Leader John Murtagh with Molly Roffman; District 6 Councilmember John Larkin with Mel Goldstein; Administration's Appointee Joe D'Lando.



Written by Laura Fahrenthold-Pittman

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